95

TARC NEWSLETTER

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NOVEMBER, 1995

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Charles Fagel KR4YZ 267-1475 SECRETARY: Bobbi Sue Wood AD4VV 268-8537
V.PRESIDENT: Tom Nguyen AD4NA 636-6663 TREASURER: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-9375

CLUB INFORMATION

TARC Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs at Jaycee Building
TARC Nets: VIP - Thursdays at 1000 hrs on 146.910
Friendship - Thursdays at 1830 hrs on 146.910
Mosquito - Wednesdays at 1900 hrs on 28.333
TARC Repeaters: VHF - 146.910 and 146.970. UHF - 444.150

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Charles Fagel KR4YZ

During the most of September and October, we were enjoying the balmy weather and so do not have much to report on.

We understand that the pot luck dinner held in September was a huge success with gourmet surprises too numerous to mention. We have heard of no one who didn't have a good time, or left hungry. We did get a report on an individual who could not resist four deserts. Our sincere thanks and appreciation to Kay KD4VFQ and all her helpers. We unfortunately were not there and Kay refused to deliver unless we paid shipping costs, but I'm looking forward to the next one.

Remember the meeting Oct. 24th at the DAV Building which is next door to the Jaycees. At this meeting we will be presenting to the members proposed changes to the club by-laws for review, with voting scheduled for the November 28, meeting.

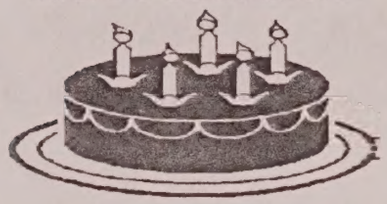
November 11 is Hamfest Day at Fox Lake. The committees still have lots of opportunities for volunteers, but even if you can't volunteer, make every effort to come out and support your club. Cliff KC4SYD promises the biggest and best ever. Let's give him a boost and surpass his expectations.

Remember also that the September meeting is the dead line for Ham of the Year nominations.

Keep in mind that the '95 Christmas party will be held on December 15 at Royal Oak Country Club, You will be hearing more about the party from Pike W4EPU.

We will again this year be supporting the Jaycees Christmas Parade, which will be on the 9th of December. This is a change from the first Saturday date of December 2. You will be hearing more about support needs on future nets.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



11-01	N2USO	MARIE GENCORELLI
11-01	KE4BBK	ORA PROSSER
11-04	KD4CBT	CARL HUGHES
11-07	KD4MIV	RICH METZGAR
11-09	N4KCI	CHRIS BEST
11-09	KE4GOQ	MIKE HADDAD
11-11	K4GXR	RON RICHARDSON
11-14	KC4SYD	CLIFF HOAG
11-14	KD4VFS	STEVE MORRIS
11-16	KE4MXB	BONNIE FROST
11-18	WB8CLQ	BOB COWGILL
11-18	KE4TKC	HARMONY BURDICK
11-22	KE4AGL	RALPH HALL
11-22	KE4BBD	DEREK McLEAN
11-23	KS4JN	RAYMOND HUDSON
11-25	KE4HOF	TAMMY METZGAR
11-25	KE4AUA	LARRY BRUETT
11-26	KC4HIO	RICHARD SWEATT
11-26	KD4HNW	KEN DENMAN
11-27	K4EGV	CHARMAINE COFMAN
11-27	KR4HS	GEORGE SMITH
11-28	KD4JBE	HOOT GIBSON
11-28	K4VTY	DAVE SPRINGER

ED. NOTE: The following poem was sent in by Kay KD4VFQ. She says that Ace KE4ZOZ wrote it during the time of his recuperation from neck surgery. It seems that Ace and his girlfriend went to a coffee house where poetry was being read, and Ace was inspired to write his poem. The amazing thing is that this is his first effort at writing.

Congratulations, Ace. Don't let this be your first and last, and be sure to share future writings with us.

Thanks, Kay, for sending this in to us.

If there are other talented members out there, we would like to hear from you. too.

LIFE

By Ace KE4ZOZ

In the sun
On the lake
In the sea
Of the galaxy
I am small
Life is big
And I wear it
With no wig
Eyes wide open
Looking out
I see a road
Near that trout
As I pass it
Looking down
I see my life
Is still about
And if I try
To stay awake
I'll see my life
Taking shape
In the sun
On the lake
I like this life
It is no fake
So when I cry
Or do laugh
Don't stick me with
A shiny gaffs
Show me soul
Show me sky
Show me heart
I won't wonder why
I am small
Life is big
In the sea
Of the galaxy
I will be what I can
As I travel in the sun
Take me to the lake I love
Let me see my life above
For if I keep my eyes wide open
I'll see life taking shape
In the sun
On the lake
With a word from no fake

PULLING BUD'S PULLEY

By Jo KE4AEB

Bud K4CWG indicated he was having problems pulling a pulley from his pulley shaft on the air conditioner in his Chevy Blazer.

Jo KE4AEB remembering (very unusual for Jo) that he once had a pulley puller that he had pulled lots of pulleys from pulley shafts, thought he might offer Bud the use of his puller to pull the pulley from the pulley shaft. So Jo told Bud that he had a pulley puller that he had pulled many pulleys from pulley shafts with and that if he thought Jo's pulley puller might pull the pulley from the pulley shaft that Bud was welcome to give it a try.

Jo then asked him what the width was of the pulley that he was trying to pull from the pulley shaft on the air conditioner. Bud said it was 4 inches across the flat side from rim to rim and that if Jo thought his pulley puller that had so successfully pulled many pulleys from pulley shafts in the past might pull his pulley from his pulley shaft, he sure would like to give it a try.

Jo then told Bud that he would be more than happy for him to try and pull his pulley from the air conditioner pulley shaft with his pulley puller, reminding him at the same time it might still take a lot of pull even with his pulley puller to pull the pulley from his air conditioner pulley shaft.

Ed. note: Hey Jo, you left us hanging! Did the pulley puller pull the pulley shaft that Bud wanted to pull?

ARLX039 HAM'S WAR ANNIVERSARY

From Amateur Radio Newsline

The young US Army Signal Corps sergeant who helped relay the "end of the war" message on August 14, 1945, is an Amateur Radio legacy and a current active ham.

Sgt. Richard Zucker, today KB3YM of Ellicot City, MD was a radio operator with the 3116th Signal Service Battalion at WTJ Radio Control on Oahu, Hawaii. At 2314Z the 21 year old radioman received a teletype message from the Pentagon station WAR near Washington and relayed it to General Douglas MacArthur in the Philippines. The message announced the Japanese capitulation, signifying the official end of World War II.

Zucker grew up in an Amateur Radio family in Mt. Vernon, NY. His father, also named Richard, was on the air in 1913 with a kilowatt spark rig and a "self-assigned" call sign: 3DB. The elder Zucker was in the Signal Corps in World War I. Young Richard enlisted in the service in 1942 at age 18 and was assigned to the Signal Corps because he already knew the Morse Code. He took his amateur license exam in 1944 while stationed in Honolulu and was assigned his first call, W2QKT, in 1946.

After the war, Sgt. Zucker earned a bachelor's degree from New York University and a master's from Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. Today, he is active both on the amateur bands and on the Military Affiliate Radio System AAR3EO. His wife is Doris Jean Hauck.

TOLL-FREE?

From Amateur Radio Newsline

If you've always thought of 800 numbers as totally toll-free, be aware that there are some now that aren't. NZ9E says via packet that a recent "innovation" in the telecommunications industry is the "chargeable 800 number".

Since most people tend to think that an 800 number is free to the caller, the fact that many of these calls are now chargeable may be a surprise. In fact, I've heard that some people have encountered charges for these calls at 10 times the normal rate.

NZ9E says that if you are quoted a rate or charge figure for an 800 number, hang up immediately or you're likely to be liable for the charges. True 800 numbers still cost you nothing, but be forewarned that everything is not always what it seems to be today.

ACC - REST IN PEACE

From Amateur Radio Newsline

If you hear synthesized speech on a repeater in your city, chances are, that speech is coming from a repeater controller made by Advanced Computer Controls. As a small California based firm, ACC grew to be the biggest name in repeater control technology during the mid 1980's. The company pioneered so-called talking controllers with synthesized speech and digital voice recorders. Today, there are an estimated 2000 ACC

controllers used on amateur repeaters across the U.S. But ACC's legacy has come to an end. The victim of emerging technologies and high production costs. The company's demise leaves ACC controller owners in a precarious position.

When ACC introduced the RC-850 repeater controller in the early 1980's, no other controller approached the 850's features and capabilities. The 850's skyrocketing sales drove ACC into the national spotlight as the undisputed leader in repeater control technology. The company has even been compared to IBM for its innovation. In the mid 1980's, ACC expanded its product line by introducing lower priced controllers. At one point, ACC's market share was estimated at 90%. As the controller market continued to expand, however, newer technologies allowed competitors to produce products at lower cost. By the late 1980's, sales of ACC products which were built using early 80's technology were dropping. ACC had begun a slow tailspin - one from which it would never recover. In the last 3 years, ACC's share of the market has been estimated at only about 10%. On July 25, ACC's dynasty ended when owner Ed Ingber, WA6AXX, sold most of his company's holdings to Link Communications in Sydney, Montana. Allan Overcast, KF7FW, owns Link Communications. Overcast bought the source code, vocabulary, parts and other proprietary information that make up the brains of ACC controllers.

"What we are going to do with it, we haven't yet totally decided. We are definitely interested in using the voice library with our control systems and continuing to support some of the ACC products as much as businessly possible for us. The biggest problem with the ACC product was it was designed in the early 80's and you can no longer get parts for it."Allan Overcast KF7FW.

That's bad news for current ACC controller owners. When certain parts fail, Overcast says there is little chance replacements can be found. Link Communications is not providing technical support for ACC controllers, though Overcast says he will try to help owners in the search for parts. Overcast's company typifies what happened to ACC. Link Communications opened in 1989, unveiling its own controller, offering features ACC's high-end products could not match.

"We came out in 1989 with a controller that did more and was quite a bit lower in cost. ACC did a bad thing. They had a good controller, but didn't continue to refine it and keep it current with technologies and with amateur radio. We continually, like the controller that we designed in 1989 and redesigned in 1993 to bring it up to current technologies to keep the controller current."

Overcast says his RLC controllers, which are designed with the latest technology available, may include some features previously found in ACC products. In the meantime, Overcast and other repeater manufacturers agree that an era in repeater control technology has ended.

"ACC set the standard. Just like IBM set the standard for the coin word you have heard 'IBM compatible'. Everybody tries to be like IBM. While in the controller market, everybody tries to be like ACC." Overcast

With the thousands of ACC repeater controllers still on the air, Overcast believes his already strong market share will grow even more. Sooner or later, he says, technology will fail. And when ACC controller owners find that parts are no longer available for their systems, their only choice will be to upgrade from what used to be state of the art technology.

ACC had been advertising a new software release, Version 6, promising control capability using a personal computer. But Overcase says Version 6 has been shelved and will probably never be offered.

HEARD ISLAND UPDATE

Here is a progress report on the upcoming Heard Island DXpedition. Ralph says that preparation and crating of equipment are in full swing. The antennas are being pre-assembled and repackaged; coax is being cut to the appropriate lengths and having connectors attached; electrical supply lines are being cut to length; and tools, survival gear, and day to day camp supplies are being crated. Everything will go into a sea container bound for Australia in mid to late August. Ralph adds that he is currently generator shopping, looking for the best combination of quality, power output, and cost. For best flexibility the group needs four units, each capable of around 5 KW output.

Also, Ralph says that he has been in regular telephone contact with the charter company and skipper of the ship that will carry the expedition to Heard. He says that all remains on schedule for a November 1 departure from Fremantle in Western Australia. The expected arrival date at Heard remains November 12. The group will set up as fast as weather allows and plans on remaining on the island until December 1. If all goes as planned, the operators hope to be back in Australia by December 14.

FCC TO SAVE MONEY

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Reed Hundt has proposed actions to save money, including personnel reductions and facility closings.

Hundt said that although the FCC currently has fewer than its authorized personnel ceiling of 2,271, steps would be taken to reduce the number of FCC employees to about 2,050. In addition to retirements and buyouts, the closing of some regional and field offices would result in about 120 jobs lost, of which some 50 would be involuntary. Hundt said these 50 "reduction in force" or RIFs would be the first in FCC history.

Regional offices would be closed in Atlanta, Boston and Seattle, leaving their functions to regional offices in Chicago, Kansas City and San Francisco.

The following field offices would be closed (leaving 16 still open):Buffalo, Miami, St. Paul, Norfolk (VA), Portland (OR), Houston, San Juan, Anchorage and Honolulu.

All nine monitoring stations would be closed, as well as monitoring operations within four FCC field offices. "Fortunately", Hundt said, "technological advances will permit us to replace these monitoring stations with a national automated monitoring network by the summer of 1996."

These nine monitoring stations are at Vero Beach, FL; Belfast, MA; Allegan, MI; Douglas, AR; Livermore, CA; Ferndale, WA; Grand Island, NE; Kingsville, TX and Powder Springs, GA.

Hundt said "No monitoring function will be impaired." One facility in Laurel/Columbia, MD would be the central site for "electronic monitoring".

If approved by the full Commission, the monitoring stations and field offices would close by July, 1996. No timetable was given for closing of the four regional offices.

BOWERS VS. FLORIDA

From Amateur Radio Newsline

The final chapter in the antenna and tower battle of WA4SNT and N4XLF versus their neighbors appears to have been written and the neighbors have been victorious. W5YI reports that a final ruling from Florida's Forth District Court of Appeals that says that the transmission of electronic apparatus in the possession of David and Sharon Bowers may not interfere with neighbors electronic devices.

As previously reported, the Bowers had appealed to the American Radio Relay League to take on their tower fight, but the league turned down their request. In a letter to amateurs who had written asking for ARRL intervention the League noted the court had found that the residents of the Bowers community had mutually agreed not to annoy one another. That the Bowers installation of their eighty seven foot tower and subsequent operation had violated this agreement. Even the FCC which had come to the aid of Mark Nadel, NK2T in his battle with a Long Island New York community turned down the Bowers. Writing at the request of U.S. Senator Bob Graham, the FCC's General Council William Kennard responded by noting that the commission did not believe the Bowers case to be appropriate for FCC to intervene. Probably because it is an issue dealing with deed restrictions over which no regulatory agency seems to have any jurisdiction.

RESCUE AT SEA

The crew of a yacht that nearly sank off the Mendocino coast is safe and back on dry land. This, thanks to a ham radio operator in Canada who picked up their distress signal when Coast Guard officials nearby could not. The 36 foot ketch lost its rudder and was drifting helplessly in 24 foot waves off Point Arena Thursday, June 1, when Doug Burrows heard their faint mayday calls on his radio. Burrows called the U.S.Coast Guard in San Francisco, which dispatched a cutter and helicopter. The three crew members, who stayed with their boat, arrived at the Coast Guard Station Golden Gate the following day. The yacht was towed in by a Coast Guard patrol boat.

TREASURERS REPORT

By K4EOS Clyde Lee

BALANCE FORWARD FROM 1994	1,070.58
DEPOSITS Year to date	5,038.29
TOTAL INCOME	$6108.87
EXPENDITURES	4,380.09
BALANCE AS AT 8/31/95	$1728.86

"ATTABOY"

By Clyde K4EOS

A lot of "attaboys" to Les K4SJC and Warren KS4GP for their recent work on selling donated ham equipment for the club. Some of these sales were made at the Melbourne Hamfest and some before.

This work resulted in $330.00 for the club treasury.

There were other members who helped in this project, unloading the sale items at the hamfest and helping man the 2 tables, then getting all the unsold gear back in Warren's trailer after the hamfest. "Attaboys" to you people, also! This sort of thing makes me proud to be a TARC ham.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

By Bobbi Sue Wood AD4VV

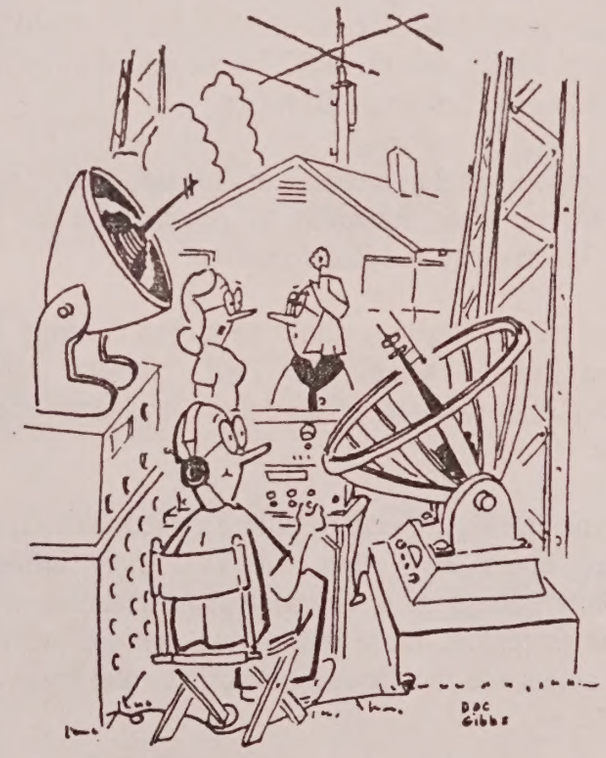
The meeting's format was quite unusual, and quite enjoyable! Tom AD4NA called matters to order at 1900 hrs. However, the 73 members and guests had to look at him at the far end of tables beautifully decorated and ready for the feast to follow!! According, only the following items were discussed:

Applicants KF4CDK Bill, and KE3ICM Andy were voted as members. Welcome aboard, guys. Glad to have you in the club.

There was some discussion given to the timing and location of the October meeting because the Jaycees hall will not be available on our normal meeting date. Members were encouraged to monitor the Wednesday/Thursday nets to keep informed of changes.

The 1995 nominating committee was named as KD4LDR Bill Dimeo; KC4TE Gene Mann and W4UYZ Jim Creevay.

Then we ate! And, the dinner was absolutely marvelous, thanks to all the pot-luck dishes which covered tables aligned more than half way across the hall! Our members certainly put out a most impressive and most delicious spread, and I wouldn't be surprised if this fall dinner became a regular part of our club's calendar. Many, many thanks to all the good "cookers" for a most enjoyable evening. Also, our thanks to Miss Kay KD4VFQ for planning and organizing the evening, and to her set-up crew: KC4SYD Clif, KS4GP Warren, W4EPU Pike and AE4LE Ralph.



"Oh, he's not a licensed ham, but he is a very enthusiastic SWL."

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike W4EPU

GREAT ANNUAL SOAP-ON-A-ROPE CAPER

Several years ago this writer received soap-on-a-rope as a gift in the TARC Christmas party gift exchange. Not really having a use for it, at least the use for which it was intended, I kept it around for a couple of years. My wife, Clara KE4YQL and I, in one of our little discussions on such matters, decided it would be a good "special" gift for someone.

At our Christmas party in 1993, knowing Cliff, KC4SYD was a good sport and an active member of TARC, we faked a drawing, supposedly drawing Cliff's number. He thus became the second recipient of the soap.

Cliff, going along with the idea, with the same recipient qualifications as before being considered, passed it on to Dan, AD4VU, during our 1994 Christmas party. thus a tradition was established.

Who will be the recipient this year? No one as yet knows. Dan is reluctantly willing to pass it on to some worthy person this year at our annual Christmas party. The selection process is already in progress. Be certain, whoever it may be, the two basic requirements will be - A member of TARC and a good sport.

Attend our annual Christmas party at Royal Oak on December 15 and witness this momentous event. Who Knows? The recipient could be YOU.

Speaking of the TARC Christmas party, this year it will be held at the Royal Oak Country Club on Friday, December 15. Pike and Clara are chairing the event and are planning a fun filled evening. It will include choices of prime rib or some kind of fancy chicken with trimmings and dessert. They have booked entertainment which they feel everyone will enjoy. There will be some annual business taken care of, including the installation of our 1996 officers. A few surprises will be mixed in to add a little spice to the event. All of this for $15.00 per person including tax and gratuity. Availability of tickets will be announced later.

ENGLISH NUFFINS

From FLYING magazine

English is the language of aviation, and pilots the world over know that Bad English is the universal language of the planet. Some examples, from an Air France bulletin:

In a Tokyo hotel: It is forbidden to steal hotel towels, please. If you are not a person to do such thing is please not to read this notice.

In a Bucharest hotel lobby: The lift is being fixed for the next day. During that time we regret that you will be unbearable.

In a Paris hotel elevator: Please leave your values at the front desk.

In an Athens hotel: Visitors are expected to complain at the office between the hours of 9 and 11 daily.

In a Japanese hotel: You are invited to take advantage of chamber maid.

In the lobby of a Moscow hotel: You are welcome to visit the cemetery where famous Russian and Soviet composers, artists and writers are buried daily except Thursday.

In a Rome laundry: Ladies, leave your clothes here and spend the afternoon having a good time.

In a Swiss mountain inn: Special today - no ice cream.

Outside a Hong Kong tailor shop: Ladies may have a fit upstairs.

In a Copenhagen airline ticket office: We take your bags and send them in all directions.

LIGHT PLANE WITH FANGS?

Romania's Aviation Design & Consulting Center is developing a Lycoming O-320-powered two-seat basic trainer called the DK-10 Dracula. The prototype is scheduled to fly next spring.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 281. (206 regular, 61 family, 10 honorary, 9 other.)

NEW MEMBERS: NOT YET GAIL CHYCOTA
KE4BBP BUBBA STITT
KF4BGR ED LYONS
KF4CFM ARNOLD THRASH
KF4CYE ERNEST CODY

RENEWALS: KD4DOJ FAYE SKIDMORE
KE4FFA MONA SKIDMORE
KE6DPF PAUL YOCOM
N9EZV KEN TENDICK
N9FAB LORRAINE TENDICK
KE4GOQ MIKE HADDAD
KE4HOE FRED HADDAD
KE4HOD H. ENGLAND
K4IXU JOHN PITTMAN
WA4JWU ROGER VERBLE
KE4MWY DAN CHYCOTA
AD4NA TOM NGUYEN
KE4BBG TOYIA NGUYEN
N4KFP TOM DOWNS
KE4NUZ HARRY SHETLER
KA4NZM DICK RUFFE
AD4PC DICK SHORE
KD4SSK BILL MITCHELL
W2STS JESS LEGRAND
KC4UUX ALAN MARSDEN
KD4ITX NANCY MARSDEN
KC4VMP JIM CLARK
KC4VMQ DONNA CLARK
K4VTY DAVE SPRINGER
KA4VYH BILL YOUNG

HAMFEST CALENDAR

11/4	Lake Worth FL
11/4	Mobile, AL
11/4	Eustis/Mt.Dora, FL
11/4-5	Lawrenceville, GA
11/11	Titusville ARC Cliff Hoag, KC4SYD
11/18-19	Tampa, FL
12/2	Okeechobee FL
12/2	Dotham, AL
12/2	Ocala FL
12/9	Lake City, FL

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